



**Georgia Office**

## Press Release

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### **Marilyn Matheny Named Georgia's Small Business Journalist of the Year**

*--Her Radio Station Broadcast, "Business News You can Use"--*

**ST. SIMONS ISLAND, Ga.**—Marilyn Matheny, President and co-owner of St. Simons Radio Inc., has been selected the 2004 Small Business Journalist of the Year in Georgia by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Marilyn's SBA Journalist Award and an SBA Southeast Region "Champion" Award were announced today at a luncheon hosted by the Georgia Lenders Quality Circle. The event was held at the Cobb Galleria Centre. She was nominated for her SBA award by the University of Georgia Small Business Development Center (SBDC) in Brunswick.

St. Simons Island Radio operates WVEZ-FM, a small non-commercial radio station that is heard by listeners on St. Simons Island and around Glynn County. The station's format is geared to the over-40 listeners and provides programming such as "Tools for the Toolbox—Business News You can Use."

The weekly business radio show was developed at the SBDC office in Brunswick and features general topics ranging from finance and marketing to exporting for small business. The program broadcast timely business information to help listeners improve the management of their companies while supporting the SBA and SBDC outreach efforts to the business community.

WVEZ-FM also allows Coastal Georgia Community College to produce "The College Minute" and a monthly-expanded program where additional business issues and information is offered.

"Ms. Matheny recognizes the power of radio broadcasting and was proactive in introducing a simple, but effective small business radio show developed by experienced SBDC consultants," said Terri L. Denison, SBA Georgia District Director. "Our award recognizes her dedicated outreach with WWEX-FM and the positive impact it has made on the small business community."

In addition to donating airtime, Marilyn dedicates time in the station's production room and helps set up the audio equipment before the SBDC program is ready to be aired.

"Thousands of people are within the broadcast area and enjoy the show," noted Debbie Graham, the SBDC Consultant in Brunswick who nominated Marilyn. "The phone calls and personal comments continue in support of the program."

Marilyn is also part owner and office manager of Graham Brock Inc., a broadcast, technical engineering firm. The firm has a staff of five engineers and technicians with broad national and international experience.

A native of Louisville, Ky., Marilyn has a BA Degree in Business Administration from Bellarmine College, which is located in her hometown. She and her husband Ron have lived on St. Simons Island for the past 14 years.

*Expo '04, the SBA's national small business conference, will be held in Orlando on May 19-21. For more information, please go to [www.sba.gov/50/Expo 2004](http://www.sba.gov/50/Expo 2004).*

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